

**RUSHVILLE CITY COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2002  
6:00 P.M.**

The Rushville City Common Council met on the above date and time at 270 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Bridges called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Bridges asked for a moment of silence in respect for the passing of former Mayor Joe Delon, and the Great Aunt of John Byrne. Bill Goins, Darrin McGowan, Brian Sheehan, John Byrne, and Mike Pavey answered roll call. Also present were City Attorney, Julie Newhouse, Jan Voiles, *Rushville Republican*, and Scott Murray, WKWH.

**MINUTES \* \* \***

Minutes of the August 20, 2002 meeting were presented for approval. Byrne made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT\*\***

Mayor Bridges reported the following:

- Reminded Council of the municipal government day at the IACT convention. It is also the date for a regularly scheduled Council meeting, but they could still attend most of the sessions;
- Memorial services will be held throughout the day of September 11. At 5:00 p.m. there will be a service conducted at the Veteran's Memorial Bridge. At 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's will hold a memorial service. Other groups are also holding memorial services throughout the day;
- The Park Department, Police Department and WKWH are hosting a Halloween Haunted House again this year. There will be an organizational meeting on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS \* \* \***

**Park** — Mathews announced that there will be a Gospel Sing in the park on September 14 from 4:00 to 6:00.

Mathews also reported that the rat problem at Hodges Branch is under control.

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**CITIZEN'S CONCERNS \* \* \***

Byrne questioned the property located at 721 and 725 N. Morgan Street. Bridges said that the owner will be notified to attend the Unsafe Hearing Board meeting in October.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS \* \* \***

**Public Hearing Ordinance 2002-8 Sewer Rate Increase, 2002-9 WaterWorks Rate Increase** – Bridges opened the meeting for a public hearing on the sewage and waterworks rate increases. John Skomp from Crowe Chizek was present to answer questions. No one from the audience had any questions, however, Council did have some of the following comments:

Councilman Byrne stated he had a meeting with Mike Mohler regarding the fees the Utilities is paying to EMC. Byrne said he could not quite grasp the amount of money being paid to EMC. He said the utilities are paying EMC \$391,000.00 per year with an increase of 3-6% per year. He said the rate increase would raise \$441,000.00 per year and when you take into consideration the \$391,000.00 being paid to EMC, it just does not seem right. Since EMC came into the picture 2 years ago they have had an increase in pay by \$86,000.00.

Mohler stated that since the original contract in 2000 they have increased EMC's duties. EMC has hired 2 more employees and also taken over the management of the office. He said EMC said they would operate the utilities for less than what the City was operating, which they have done. Mohler said that the engineering services and consulting services have been deleted from the utilities budget since EMC has taken over, because they now provide those services.

Mohler stated that the contract or performance agreement between EMC and the Utilities has been extended until 2006.

Byrne said he was concerned that if EMC leaves then what will happen to the utilities. He said the utilities needed to prepare for the time when EMC leaves. Byrne also stated that he has no problem with the way EMC is managing the utilities, he would just like to see the fee renegotiated.

John Skomp said that one thing EMC was responsible for would be any fines that the utilities might be assessed.

Mohler said that if you compare the utilities to what it was 3 years ago, there is a very visible difference. Mohler said, "there is a price to improvement. Obviously you should get something for that, which I think you are."

Mayor Bridges asked if there were any further questions or comments. Having none, Bridges declared the public hearing closed.

Sheehan made a motion to approve Ordinance 2002-8, Sewage Rate Increase on second reading. Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 3-2 vote. Councilman Byrne and Goins voted NAY. Pavey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2002-8 on third reading. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 3-2 vote. Councilmen Byrne and Goins voted NAY.

Pavey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2002-9, Waterworks Rate Increase on second reading. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 3-2 vote. Councilmen Byrne and Goins voted NAY. Sheehan made a motion to approve Ordinance 2002-9 on third reading. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 3-2 vote. Councilmen Byrne and Goins voted NAY.

**Public Hearing Ordinance 2002-10, Fire Protection Service Cost** – Mayor Bridges opened the meeting for a public hearing on Ordinance 2002-10 regarding fire protection service cost. The fire protection, hydrant rental, is presently being paid through property taxes, but with this it would be phased into the customer billing over a 3 year period beginning October 1, 2002. There were no questions or comments from the audience. Bridges declared the public hearing closed.

Pavey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2002-10 on second reading. McGowan seconded the motion. Byrne said he wanted to make sure the line item in the budget would be reduced to reflect the change in the hydrant rental. Bridges assured him it was. Motion carried unanimously. Pavey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2002-10 on third reading. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing 2003 Budget** – Bridges declared the meeting open for a public hearing on the 2003 budget. There being no comments or questions, Bridges declared the public hearing closed. Pavey made a motion to approve the budget on 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pavey made a motion to pass the budget on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS \* \* \***

**Resolution 2002-16** – Sheehan made a motion to approve Resolution 2002-16, a transfer of appropriations. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2002-17** – Byrne made a motion to approve Resolution 2002-17, adding monies back to appropriations. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Claims Approval** – McGowan made a motion to approve all the claims. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sheehan asked if a Resolution could be prepared in honor of Joe Delon. Bridges said he would prepare a Resolution.

There being no further business to come before Council, Goins made a motion to adjourn. Pavey seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MAYOR

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WILLIAM R. GOINS, MEMBER

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DARRIN L. MCGOWAN, MEMBER

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BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

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JOHN M. BYRNE, MEMBER

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MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER

